

Warkworth Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Local Green Space Background Paper

October 2022

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The local green space (LGS) designation is a way to protect green areas or open spaces against development where they are of particular importance to local communities. LGS designations are made for use in local plans or neighbourhood plans. These plans can identify on a map ('designate') areas for special protection. Once designated, LGSs receive protection consistent with national Green Belt policy.
- 1.2 The purpose of this background paper is to explain the process which will lead to the designation of areas of LGS in the Warkworth Parish Neighbourhood Plan (WNP). It sets out the national and local backgrounds to LGS and explains the methodology used in the assessments.
- 1.3 As part of the consultation on the pre-submission draft plan, we are inviting comments on the background paper. Comments can be made in the following ways:
- Preferably by using the online form available at www.warkworthnp.org;
 - Downloading a copy of the response form from our website and emailing or posting it back to us at Warkworth Parish Clerk, Warkworth Parish Council, 30 Rothbury Drive, Ashington, NE63 8TQ;
 - Picking up a paper copy of the response form from St Lawrence Church, Warkworth;
 - Sending an email to warkworthnp.chair@gmail.com; or
 - Sending a letter to the address above.
- 1.4 Comments must be received by noon on Monday 9 January 2023.

2. Planning policy background

National Planning Policy Framework

- 2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF – 2021) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. Section 8 of the NPPF highlights the important role the planning system can play in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities.
- 2.2 Paragraph 98 identifies that access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and wellbeing of communities. Paragraph 99 states that:
- 'Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:*
- a) an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or*
 - b) the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or*
 - c) the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the benefits of which clearly outweigh the loss of the current or former use.'*
- 2.3 With regard to Local Green Space (LGS) designation, paragraph 101 states:
- 'The designation of land as Local Green Space through local and neighbourhood plans allows communities to identify and protect green areas of particular importance to them. Designating land as Local Green Space should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential*

services. Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or updated, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period.'

2.4 Paragraph 102 explains when the designation should be used:

'The Local Green Space designation should only be used where the green space is:

- a) in reasonably close proximity to the community it serves;*
- b) demonstrably special to a local community and holds a particular local significance, for example because of its beauty, historic significance, recreational value (including as a playing field), tranquillity or richness of its wildlife; and*
- c) local in character and is not an extensive tract of land.'*

2.5 Paragraph 103 identifies that local policy for managing development within a LGS should be consistent with policy for Green Belts. National Green Belt policy requires that inappropriate development, that which is harmful to the allocation, on land designated as LGS will only be permitted where very special circumstances can be demonstrated.

National Planning Practice Guidance

2.6 The NPPF is supported by guidance set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG). With regard to LGS, NPPG identifies:

- Designating LGS needs to be consistent with local planning for sustainable development in the area. Plans must identify sufficient land in suitable locations to meet identified development needs and the LGS designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making (Paragraph: 007 Reference ID: 37-007-20140306);
- LGS designation will rarely be appropriate where land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the development would be compatible with the reasons for designation or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented (Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 37-008-20140306);
- LGS may be designated where those spaces are demonstrably special to the local community, whether in a village, neighbourhood, town or city (Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 37-009-20140306);
- If land is already protected by another designation, consideration should be given to whether any additional local benefit would be gained by designation as LGS (Paragraph: 010 Reference ID: 37-010-20140306);
- The LGS will need to meet the criteria set out in paragraph 77 of the NPPF (see paragraph 2.3 above). Whether to designate land is a matter for local discretion. For example, green areas could include land where sports pavilions, boating lakes or structures such as war memorials are located, allotments, as well as urban spaces that provide a tranquil oasis (Paragraph: 013 Reference ID: 37-013-20140306);
- The proximity of a LGS to the community it serves will depend on local circumstances, including why the green area is seen as special, but it must be reasonably close. For example, if public access is a key factor, then the site would normally be within easy walking distance of the community served (Paragraph: 014 Reference ID: 37-014-20140306);
- There are no hard and fast rules about how big a LGS can be because places are different and a degree of judgment will inevitably be needed. However, paragraph 100 of the NPPF is clear that LGS designation should only be used where the green area concerned is not an extensive tract of land. Consequently, blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements will not be appropriate. Designation should not be proposed as a 'back door' way to try to achieve what would amount to a new area of Green Belt by another name (Paragraph: 015 Reference ID: 37-015-20140306);

- Provided land can meet the criteria at paragraph 77 of the NPPF there is no lower size limit for an LGS (Paragraph: 016 Reference ID: 37-016-20140306);
- Land can be designated as LGS even if there is not public access e.g. green areas which are valued because of their wildlife, historic significance and/or beauty. Designation does not in itself confer any rights of public access over what exists at present. Any additional access would be a matter for separate negotiation with landowners, whose legal rights must be respected (Paragraph: 017 Reference ID: 37-017-20140306);
- Areas that may be considered for designation as LGS may be crossed by public rights of way. There is no need to designate linear corridors as LGS simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation (Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 37-018-20140306);
- A LGS does not need to be in public ownership. However, the qualifying body should contact landowners at an early stage about proposals to designate any part of their land as LGS. Landowners will have opportunities to make representations in respect of proposals in a draft plan (Paragraph: 019 Reference ID: 37-019-20140306);
- Designating a green area as LGS would give it protection consistent with that in respect of Green Belt, but otherwise there are no new restrictions or obligations on landowners (Paragraph: 020 Reference ID: 37-020-20140306);
- Management of land designated as LGS will remain the responsibility of its owner. If the features that make a green area special and locally significant are to be conserved, how it will be managed in the future is likely to be an important consideration. Local communities can consider how, with the landowner's agreement, they might be able to get involved, perhaps in partnership with interested organisations that can provide advice or resources (Paragraph: 021 Reference ID: 37-021-20140306);
- Land designated as LGS may potentially also be nominated for listing by the local authority as an Asset of Community Value. Listing gives community interest groups an opportunity to bid if the owner wants to dispose of the land. (Paragraph: 022 Reference ID: 37-022-20140306).

3. Local green space and protected open space methodology

Background

- 3.1 In order to seek to identify areas of LGS which meet the requirements of the NPPF and NPPG, Warkworth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group prepared a methodology to be followed. The application of the methodology is described below.

Step 1: Identification of green/ open spaces, including early engagement

- 3.2 The first step was to identify a list of green areas and open spaces to assess as potential LGS. A variety of sources of information will be used to inform this process:
- Sites allocated in the Northumberland Local Plan;
 - Northumberland Open Space, Sport and Recreation Provision Assessment (2011)¹;
 - Northumberland Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011)²;

¹ <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/Planning-and-Building/planning%20policy/Studies%20and%20Evidence%20Reports/Landscape%20Green%20Spaces%20Studies/5.%20Open%20Space%20Recreation/Openspace-Sport-Recreation-Assessment-May-2011.pdf>

² <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/NorthumberlandCountyCouncil/media/Planning-and-Building/planning%20policy/Studies%20and%20Evidence%20Reports/Landscape%20Green%20Spaces%20Studies/3.%20Green%20Infrastructure/Green-Infrastructure-Strategy-October-2011.pdf>

- Review of current information, such as local studies, character appraisal and the historic environment record; and
- Feedback from early engagement on the neighbourhood plan, in particular feedback from the Residents Survey sent out in October 2021 and engagement on possible planning policies in May to July 2022.

Step 2: Assessment of spaces, including further engagement

- 3.3 Once the list of green spaces and maps have been collected from the sources listed in step 1, members of the steering group assessed their suitability for designation as LGS against the criteria in the NPPF and NPPG as outlined in section 2.
- 3.4 In order to be identified as LGS all of the following criteria, identified in figure 1 below were required to be met:

Criteria	Explanation
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development	LGS designation will rarely be appropriate where the land has planning permission for development. Exceptions could be where the designation would be compatible with the planning permission or where planning permission is no longer capable of being implemented. (NPPG Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 37-008-20140306) Q: Does the space have planning permission?
Land is not allocated or proposed for development in the local or neighbourhood plan. Unless it can be shown that the LGS could be incorporated within the site as part of the allocated development.	LGS should be consistent with the local planning of sustainable development and complement investment in sufficient homes, jobs and other essential services (NPPF Paragraph 99) Designating any LGS will need to be consistent with local planning for sustainable development in the area. In particular, plans must identify sufficient land in suitable locations to meet identified development needs and the LGS designation should not be used in a way that undermines this aim of plan making (NPPG Paragraph: 007 Reference ID: 37-007-20140306) The space should be capable of enduring beyond the plan Period (NPPF Paragraph 99) Q: Is the space allocated or proposed to be allocated in a development plan
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	LGS designation should only be used where the green area is not an extensive tract of land. Blanket designation of open countryside adjacent to settlements will not be appropriate. (NPPG Paragraph: 015 Reference ID: 37-015- 20140306) Q: How close is the space to the community it serves? Q: Where are the nearest centres of population?
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	LGS may be designated where those spaces are demonstrably special to the local community, whether in a village or a neighbourhood in a town. (NPPG Paragraph: 009 Reference ID: 37-009-20140306) The space must be demonstrably special

	<p>by meeting at least one of criterion in the following table.</p> <p>Q: Is the proposal to designate supported by any of the following: A friends group, local community groups, a parish plan, the town council, ward member(s)?</p>
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Figure 1: LGS criteria required to be met by all potential sites

3.5 The criteria in figure 2 below then seeks to draw out what it is about the space that makes it ‘demonstrably special to the local community’. A LGS should meet at least one of the criteria in the table below, although some spaces will meet more than one of the criteria:

Criteria	Explanation
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its beauty? Does the space contribute to the visual attractiveness of the townscape or character / setting of the settlement? Is the space covered by other landscape or townscape designations? (e.g. conservation area)
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its historic significance? Does the proposed space or elements of the space have local historical significance? (e.g. conservation area) Are there any historic buildings or structures in the space? (e.g. listed building or scheduled monument) Are there any important historic landscape features on the space? (e.g. veteran trees or old hedgerows) Does the space have a historic literature or art connection?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its recreational value? There is no need to designate linear corridors as LGS simply to protect rights of way, which are already protected under other legislation. (NPPG Paragraph: 018 Reference ID: 37-018-20140306) What variety of recreational activities does the space support? (e.g. the space is used for playing sport and for informal recreation) Is the space already identified in the Northumberland Open Space study?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity	Why is the space considered to be tranquil? Is the space used for quiet reflection?
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	How is the proposed space of particular local significance, in respect of its richness

	<p>of wildlife? Is the proposed space formally designated for its wildlife value? (e.g. is it a SSSI, SNCI or local nature reserve). Are any important habitats or species found in the space? Does the proposed space support species of fauna or flora? (e.g. protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 (as amended), Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 or Habitat Regulations 2010, Section 41 of the Natural Environment & Rural Communities Act 2006) Does the proposed space support species of birds listed on the red, amber or green lists of species of conservation concern or notable assemblage of invertebrates? Does the proposed space support irreplaceable habitats such as ancient semi-natural woodland and veteran trees? Does the proposed space function as part of a wildlife corridor or green infrastructure enabling the dispersal of species of flora and fauna?</p>
<p>The proposed space is of particular local significance because of another reason not covered by criteria above.</p>	<p>Are there any other reasons why the proposed space has a particular local significance for the local community?</p>

Figure 2: Criteria that identify why the space is demonstrably special to the local community

- 3.6 The assessment then concluded whether all the nationally required criteria have been met and listed the relevant local criteria and whether the space is considered to be suitable as LGS.
- 3.7 For sites that were not considered to meet the required criteria, consideration was then given to whether they should be allocated as protected open space. This considered whether the space was valued for its local amenity and/ or informal recreation. In addition, consideration was given to whether another, alternative allocation would be more appropriate such as allotment or open countryside designation. Sites that were already protected in other ways, for example graveyards owned and protected by the Anglican Church and designated wildlife sites/ nature reserves, were not proposed for further protection.
- 3.8 Prior to formal consultation on proposed areas for designation contact was made with the owners of the sites where ownership information was available.

Step 3: Feedback - pre-submission neighbourhood plan – CURRENT STAGE

- 3.9 The pre-submission neighbourhood plan proposes the allocation of 19 sites as local green space. Through consultation on the plan, the parish council is seeking further feedback on the proposed designations.

Step 4: Submission neighbourhood plan

- 3.10 Responses received to the consultation on the pre-submission draft neighbourhood plan will be considered and will inform the preparation of the submission plan, which will be subject to a further six-week public consultation organised by Northumberland County Council.

Step 5: Examination/ referendum/ adoption

- 3.11 Following the submission of the neighbourhood plan, it will then be examined by an independent examiner. The examiner will review the evidence base for the plan – including whether there is evidence to justify the allocation of LGS. Once the plan passes examination it will then go to referendum and will be formally ‘made’ by Northumberland County Council.

4. Conclusion and next steps

- 4.1 This background paper explains the process which has led to the proposed designation of areas of LGS in the Warkworth Neighbourhood Plan. It summarises the national and local background to LGS and explains the methodology that has been used in the assessments.
- 4.2 All the sites that have been assessed for designation are included in appendix 1. Further details on those that have proposed to be allocated as LGS is included within Appendix 2 and site maps included within Appendix 3.
- 4.3 Responses received to this consultation will inform the preparation of the submission draft neighbourhood plan which will then be submitted to Northumberland County Council for a further public consultation and then subject to examination.

Appendix 1 All sites assessed – summary

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
1	Playing field between Morwick Road and the Castle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	The site is allocated as POS within the NLP (1014). A small site close to Morwick Road. Highly valued and well used by the local community. Part of the setting of Warkworth Castle and important to the character of the wider area. A tranquil site, adjacent to ancient woodland, supporting a variety of wildlife. Appropriate for designation as LGS.
2	The Stanners riverside area	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Part of the site is allocated as POS within the NLP (1400). A small site located directly behind the village centre. Highly valued and well used by the local community. Important to the character of the local area. Lies within the conservation area and part of the setting of heritage assets. A tranquil site next to the river and away from the main road. Supports a variety of wildlife. Appropriate for designation as LGS.

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
3	The Butts riverside area	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A narrow site adjacent to the river and residential properties. Important to the character of the local area and within the conservation area. Valued and used frequently by the local community. A tranquil site adjacent to the river and away from the main road. The river and its banks provide a haven for many bird species. Appropriate for designation as LGS.
4	Play area near school	✓	✓	✓	x	x	✓	x	x	✓	Allocated as POS within the NLP (1422). A small play area near to a large residential area and the school. It is the only play park with facilities for young children and is therefore highly valued by the local community. Appropriate for designation as LGS.
5	Warkworth Castle Grounds	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Allocated as POS within the NLP (1089). A small area of land surrounding the castle which is in the heart of the village and within the conservation area. The site is a vital part of the significance of the castle which is a scheduled monument. Residents and visitors use

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
											the site for woking and forms part of the Warkworth Show. A tranquil site which supports many wild native plants, providing an important habitat for bats and birds. Appropriate for designation as LGS.
6	Warkworth Cricket Pitch	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	Allocated in the NLP as POS (1087 and 1013). A small site which is situated in the heart of the village. Highly valued by the local community. Important to the character of the local area and the setting of the castle. A tranquil site, surrounded by fields. Appropriate for designation as LGS.
7	The Burgage plots including allotments/ community garden	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Narrow strips of land behind Castle Street in the centre of the village. Highly valued by the local community. The site lies within the conservation area and is an important part of the character of the area. The burgage plots date back to medieval times with great historic significance to the village. The allotment plots are used by local residents and there is a long waiting list. The site is

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
											tranquil and includes ancient hedgerows which support numerous birds. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
8	Millennium garden	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	A small site adjacent to the bridge tower and bridge, within the centre of the village. Highly valued and well used by the local community. An important part of the character of the area, lying within the conservation area. A tranquil site where people sit and watch the world go by. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
9	The football pitch, Beach Road	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	Allocated within the NLP as POS (1015). Within easy reach of the local community. Valued for its recreational purposes. Situated in a quiet location away from the main road. Important to the character of the local area. Barn owls are regularly seen hunting on the site, a wide variety of birds are also seen. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
10	Rotary Way	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	A narrow strip of land separating Amble and Warkworth. Used for walking and cycling. Flanked by the River Coquet and

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
											within the AONB – important to the character of the area and valued by the local community and visitors. Avoiding busy times the site can be tranquil. A variety of wildlife has been observed at the site (otters, seals and many bird species). Appropriate to designate as LGS.
11	The Braid, near Amble	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	Includes land allocated as POS within the NLP (1123 and 1125). Highly valued and well used by the local community – often used for events. Important part of the character of the area, particularly its relationship with Amble Marina and Harbour. A tranquil site bordered by the Coquet estuary which is an important wildlife area. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
12	Warkworth Golf Course	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Close to Warkworth village, access adjacent to the beach car park. Surrounded by dunes and the beach. Important to the character of the local area. The course was originally laid out in 1892. Well used by members and

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
											visitors. Includes the Killicrankie Gorge, which links the village to the north end of Warkworth beach and is well used by walkers. A tranquil site adjacent to the sea with no traffic noise. Home to an abundance of wildlife including kingfishers, oyster catchers, curlews, barn owls and many species of waders. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
13	Warkworth School playing fields	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	A small site close to residential dwellings. The only school in the parish. The site is adjacent to St Mary Magdalene’s medieval chapel which is a scheduled monument. In 2017, 218 medieval silver coins were found at the site. Includes a forest school, wildlife pond, allotment and play facilities. The site is important to the character of the local area. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
14	St Lawrence Church Grounds	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A small site, home to a 12 th century Norman church, which is grade I listed. It is situated in the heart of the village beside the river and marketplace, within

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
											the conservation area. Used by a wide variety of community groups in addition to normal church services. A tranquil site which includes mature ancient trees, shrubs and flowers. The site is a haven for wildlife including bats, swifts, hedgehogs and other wildlife. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
15	Black Bridge area	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	A small site which is within walking distance of Morwick Road. It is the link to the riverside caravan parks. The site has rewilded following severe floods in 2008. It contains a mixture of native trees and shrubs, with wildflowers in the summer. The site is used by walkers and cyclists. It is the main link for tourists staying in caravans to access the village. A tranquil site by the river. Supports deer's, otters, kingfishers, barn owls and a variety of wildflowers. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
16	Land between back of Morwick Road	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A small part of a wider field which has been left to rewild for over 10 years. Important to the character of the wider

Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
	and Mill Walk Wood										area. A tranquil site which contains wild grasses, flowers, birds and small mammals. Used and highly valued by the local community. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
17	Land surrounding the playing field, castle and cricket pitch	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	Part of the site is allocated as POS within the NLP (1013). Located within the heart of the village. Important to the setting of the castle, lying within the conservation area. The site forms part of the medieval deer hunting park boundary. It comprises tranquil pasture fields which are meadows for part of the year, followed by grazing (for cows). The site is used by swallows, housemartins, bats, barn owls, tawny owls, deer, foxes and badgers. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
18	Birling Gap	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	A small site adjacent to the village cemetery within the heart of the community. Part of the setting to a grade II listed chapel. A tranquil site used by swallows, housemartins, bats, barn owls, tawny owls, badgers, deer

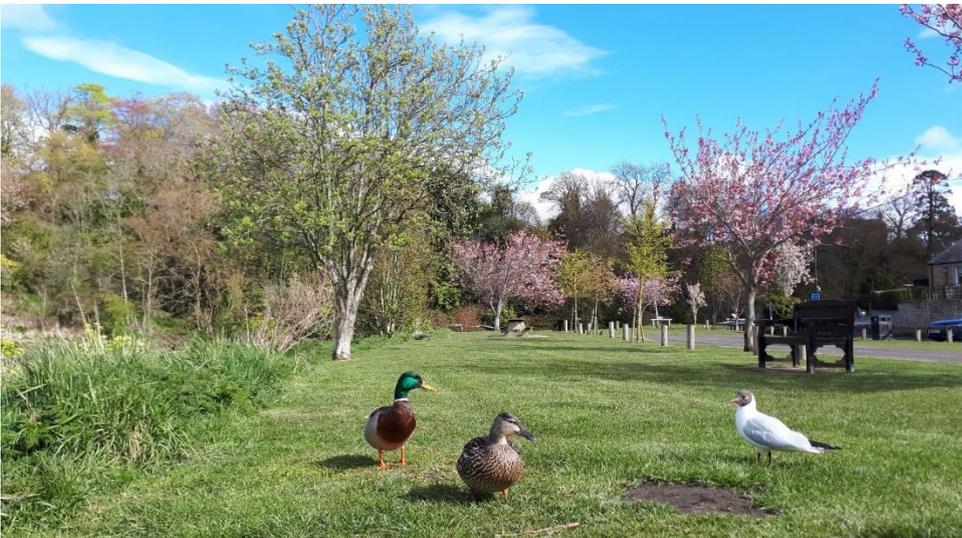
Site Ref	Site name	The space is not designated for development/ has planning permission	The space is not an extensive tract of land	The space in close proximity to the community it serves	The space is demonstrably special for any of the following reasons?					The space should be designated as Local Green Space	Comments
					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
											and red squirrels. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
19	Rigg and furrow field, west of Warkworth Castle	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Small fields used for sheep grazing. The site comprises permissive open access land and is well used by the local community and visitors. Important to the setting of the castle and from the site most of the village can be viewed, including the castle and church of St Lawrence. The field show evidence of medieval farming practices. As a result of its location away from roads and because it is adjacent to the river it is a tranquil site. Important habitat for birds, badgers and deer. Appropriate to designate as LGS.
20	Dunes	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	✓	x	During early engagement the local community identified that the dunes should be protected as local green space. Whilst they meet the criteria for allocation, as a result of their international ecological designations (Ramsar site, special protection areas and special area of conservation) it is

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					Beauty	Historic significance	Recreation	Tranquility	Richness of wildlife		
											considered that there is sufficient protection in place and LGS designation would not add to this.
21	Coquet river bank	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	✓	x	During early engagement the local community identified that the Coquet riverbank should be protected as local green space. Some specific parts of the riverbank have been identified separately (see LGS 02, 03, 10 and 15) for allocation as LGS. Much of the remainder of the riverbank is designated as ancient woodland and/or SSSI. Some also has Protected Open Space designation. Thus, whilst it meets the criteria for allocation, it was felt that the existing protections are sufficient and LSG designation would not add to this.

Appendix 2 Local green space detailed site assessments

Site Ref	LGS1	
Site Name	The playing field between Morwick Road and the Castle	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates Tenant – Warkworth Parish Council	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Identified as POS within NLP (1014)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	The field is reasonably small, not large enough for a full size football pitch.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	The field is close to the Castle, cricket pitch and Morwick Road, a long residential street.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	The field is one of only 2 spaces in the village for older children to play on. 313 people in the Warkworth resident’s survey valued this space for recreational purposes.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The field is part of the setting of Warkworth Castle and forms an important part of the character of the local area.

The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	The field is part of the setting to Warkworth Castle and is part of an open area of land which showcases the magnificence of the Castle.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The field has football goal posts and a basketball post. It is well used by children as a sport and play area. It is also well used by dog walkers, of which there are many in the village. It is used by local people walking from the top end of the village to the village centre, as it avoids traffic and the roads. There is a picnic table in the corner of the field. 313 people in the Warkworth resident’s survey valued this space for recreational purposes and wanted to see it protected.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The field is set back from Morwick Road and is edged by ancient woodland to the north. It is the quiet walking route from one end of the village to the village centre.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The field is bordered by ancient woodland which contain active badger setts. In addition to badgers, there are foxes, deer, squirrel and a wide range of birds. Woodpeckers are regularly heard, as well as rooks (there is a small rookery in the adjacent woodland). Swallows, house martins and swifts all use the field. Wading birds sometimes use the field and oyster catchers and curlew are often seen there. At night, tawny owls and barn owls use the field as a hunting ground. Bats can also be seen at dusk and detected at night.
Conclusion		
The playing field is a valued green space for village residents. Not only is it part of a larger open area of land showcasing Warkworth Castle, but is valued for recreational purposes, as evidenced by the resident’s survey. It brings ‘health benefits, especially for children’, and has been more widely used during the pandemic for people getting outdoors and exercising. It should therefore be identified as local green space.		

Site Ref	LGS2	
Site Name	The Stanners riverside area	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates Tenant – Warkworth Parish Council	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Part of the site is allocated as protected open space within the local plan (1400)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A small area of land adjacent to the river, Church, and Brewery Lane.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Situated directly behind the village centre and adjacent to the Church.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	Used by residents for walking, sitting, car parking and to gain access to the river. In the resident's survey, it was greatly valued for all of the criterion below. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	Situated on the banks of the River Coquet, this area is a local beauty spot. The cherry blossom trees line the car parking area, and there is a tidal weir here too. The area has views of St Lawrence's Church, the Castle and views down to the late 14th Century bridge. 239 people in the resident's survey valued this area for its beauty and wanted to see it protected.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Close to the late 14th century bridge, one of only two incorporating a fortified bridge tower. The area is on the loop in the river and

		joins the other riverside paths along to the Castle and 14th century Hermitage. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The area has several picnic tables and benches and is very popular with both locals and visitors. It is known for its ducks and many people come to feed the ducks. There is access to the River Coquet here, and the area is used by kayakers, paddle boarders and other boat users. The area is also used by dog walkers, birdwatchers and licenced anglers.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The area is peaceful and quiet, away from the main road. It is popular for people to sit and rest and watch the river.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	Heron and kingfishers are often seen on the weir and along the riverbanks. There are hundreds of ducks, swans, moorhen and coot. The area is very popular with ducklings in the spring and summer. 205 people in the survey wanted to see this area protected for its wildlife.
Conclusion		
It was clear from the resident’s survey that the entire River Coquet and its banks were seen as one of the most important assets to the village because of its beauty, historical significance, recreational value, tranquillity and wildlife. It should therefore be identified as local green space.		

Site Ref	LGS3	
Site Name	The Butts riverside area	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates Tenant – Warkworth Parish Council	
 		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A very narrow piece of land along the riverbank.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Situated along the Butts, a residential area of older houses.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	The area contains the village flood defence wall, built in 2014. This followed flooding and tidal surges in December 2013. The area is prone to flooding, and with the current climate change crisis, the flood defence wall is crucial to the village. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The area runs along the bank of the river Coquet, with Warkworth Castle dominating the skyline behind. It is a beautiful spot with views to Helsay on the opposite banks. In the

		resident's survey, 235 people valued this area for its beauty and wanted to see it protected.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	The riverbank here was the original river-mouth of the Coquet and the original Warkworth harbour. A great storm in the 18th century changed the course of the river, and the mouth shifted to where Amble is now situated. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The area has several benches and is used by walkers, dog walkers and people seeking a quiet spot to sit and watch the river. It is used by licenced anglers, and birdwatchers are often seen here too.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	Off the main road, the area is peaceful and quiet.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	Seals and otters are seen in the river here. The river and its banks provide a haven for many bird species. In the late summer and autumn, the river is full of geese and swans.
Conclusion		
<p>It was clear from the resident's survey that the entire River Coquet and its banks were seen as one of the most important assets to the village for all of the criterion above, i.e. beauty, historical significance, recreational value, tranquillity and wildlife. This area is also very important as a flood defence, and as such needs to be protected. Flooding was an important issue identified by residents. As a result, it should therefore be identified as local green space.</p>		

Site Ref	LGS4	
Site Name	Play area near school	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland County Council Tenant – Warkworth Parish Council	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Allocated as POS within the NLP (1422)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A small play area
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Situated within 50m of the only school in the village, and near to a large residential area.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	The only play park with facilities for young children in the village.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	This is the only play park with facilities for young children. It consists of swings, a slide, a roundabout and a climbing frame and is used by families with young children. It is safe place, enclosed by fencing and with no dogs allowed in. 270 people in the survey valued this space for its recreational value and wanted to see it protected.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	x	

The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
Every town or village needs a play area for young children. This park is greatly valued by residents as evidenced in the survey, and as such, should be protected as a local green space.		

Site Ref	LGS5	
Site Name	Warkworth Castle grounds	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates Tenant – English Heritage	
		
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Allocated as POS within the NLP (1089)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A small area of land completely surrounding the castle.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	The castle is situated in the heart of the village.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	324 people in the resident's survey valued the castle grounds for their historic significance and wanted to see them protected. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	Warkworth Castle dominates the village skyline and is one of the most attractive views in Northumberland. This site is a vital part of the historic significance of the castle.

<p>The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>A Scheduled Monument within Warkworth Conservation Area. Historically it is a great example of a medieval 12th century tower keep castle which developed from an earlier motte and bailey castle. It remained in use until the end of the 16th century and in 1915, the castle became a listed ancient monument. Today the castle is maintained and managed by English Heritage. Visitors pay to enter the inner castle grounds, but the outer area is free to walk around.</p> <p>324 people in the resident's survey valued the castle grounds for their historic significance and wanted to see them protected.</p> <p>The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.</p>
<p>The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>Residents and visitors use the outer grounds for walking and children enjoy playing in the grounds. The annual Warkworth Show is extremely popular with both residents and visitors and has been held in the castle grounds for almost 150 years. It even featured in a BBC programme. The castle has an amazing display of daffodils in the spring attracting visitors and photographers from afar. There is a car park in the grounds used by visitors to the castle, and toilet facilities located in the corner of the car park. There is access to the river from the outer grounds.</p>
<p>The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>The walk around part of the grounds borders close to the main road. Residents avoid the main road (pollution, noise and risk of injury), by walking around the back of the castle and onto the top of Castle Street. It is the quiet and safer route to the village centre.</p>
<p>The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>When managed correctly, the grounds provide a host of wild native plants which are food for pollinating insects such as butterflies, bees, ladybirds and beetles. There are bats, swallows, house martins and swifts seen feeding on the insects. In the quiet months, oyster catchers and curlew use the grassed area to feed.</p>
<p>Conclusion</p>		
<p>The Castle and its surrounding grounds are the most valued historic site in the village, as evidenced in the resident's survey. Some residents expressed comments about maintaining the openness of the area surrounding the castle, for visual benefits. The site meets the requirements of local green space designation.</p>		

Site Ref	LGS6	
Site Name	Warkworth Cricket Pitch	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates Tenant – Warkworth Cricket Club	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Allocated in the NLP as POS (1087 and 1013)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A small area of land, cricket pitch sized, with a small building.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Situated close to Warkworth Castle and in the heart of the village.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	335 people in the resident’s survey valued this site for its recreational value. It is a well-used amenity. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	Located directly in front of Warkworth Castle, the cricket pitch is one of the most scenic in Northumberland and indeed in England.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Established in 1875, the Club celebrated its Centenary in 1975 and staged a game between a Rohan Kanhai XI v Deryck Murray XI on 21st September and featured stars including Eddie Hemmings, Bob Willis, Colin Murray the captain of Young West Indies. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area and forms part of the setting of the castle.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Used by Warkworth Cricket Club, there are teams for men, ladies and children and the Clubhouse is available for hire for private events too. The Club is well-used and a great form of exercise to all who use it. It also brings huge social benefits, both within the village, and with other villages/towns. The annual

		Warkfest music festival is held on the grounds and is a huge attraction for residents and local bands, as is the Warkworth annual beer festival.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	Even when a cricket match is in play, the area is tranquil. It is surrounded by fields, with no car parks or traffic noise.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
The quintessential English cricket scene, in front of a medieval castle. The area should be protected as local green space as a result of its value for recreation, history and beauty.		

Site Ref	LGS7	
Site Name	The Burgage plots including allotments/community garden	
Ownership	Various owners	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Narrow strips of land behind Castle Street.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Situated directly behind Castle Street, in the village centre.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	250 people in the survey valued the plots for their historical importance, and 217 people valuing them for recreational purposes. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	An important part of the character of the area.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	The burgage plots date back to medieval times with great historical significance to the village. Every plot was 23 feet wide and provided personal land for the inhabitants to grow crops,

		raise livestock and develop small cottage industries such as masonry and beekeeping. They featured recently on a BBC television programme 'The Story of the Village'. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The allotments and community garden are located behind Castle Street and the Memorial Hall. The allotment plots are used by local residents for a small annual rent. There are 15 plots in total and a waiting list due to high demand. The allotments users grow a wide variety of fruit and vegetables, which is important to a healthy and sustainable lifestyle. The community garden is used by residents, with a grassed area with seating and fruit trees at the bottom of the plot. The garden offers a retreat from traffic noise and a place to mix with others.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The plots and garden are very tranquil, with no roads bordering them.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	They are lined with ancient hedgerows full of birds. There are frogs, newts and toads in the plots too.
Conclusion		
The plots are not only historically valuable to residents, but a great place for recreational activities, in particular gardening and getting close to wildlife. They are off the main road, are peaceful and quiet and form an important part of the character of the village. The site therefore meets the requirements of local green space designation.		

Site Ref	LGS8
Site Name	Millennium garden
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland County Council Tenant – Warkworth Parish Council



All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A small area of land adjacent to the bridge tower and bridge.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Situated in the village centre.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	As one resident described it, the Millennium Garden is ‘the face of the village’. It is the first area you see when you enter the village by crossing the bridge, and as such, provides the first impression of the village. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The garden overlooks the old Bridge and fortified bridge tower. 196 people in the survey valued it for its beauty.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Like many other towns and villages, a Millennium Garden was created to celebrate

		the Year 2000. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Part of the gardens are maintained by the 'Warkworth in Bloom' community group. There are several planted areas with a wide range of flowers and shrubs. There is a boat filled with flowers too. The area has several mature trees, with seating areas beneath. It is used by dog walkers, residents and visitors. We also have our Little Free Library situated in the corner of the garden, ideal for those who can't access a library out of the village. For some residents with mobility issues, the garden is the only safe and accessible place they can get to.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	For those who are unable to walk along the river bank footpaths, this garden provides the perfect place to sit and rest and watch the world go by.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	x	
Conclusion		
Giving the first impression entering from the North, the garden is a beautiful part of the village. It is highly valued by residents for its recreational value, tranquillity and beauty, as evidenced in the resident's survey. The site therefore meets the requirements of local green space designation.		

Site Ref	LGS09	
Site Name	The football pitch, Beach Road	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates Tenant – Warkworth Parish Council	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Allocated within the NLP as POS (1015)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Slightly larger than a football pitch size.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	The area is sited off the beach road, near to the bridge.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	266 people in the survey wanted the area protected for recreational purposes.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The site is important to the visual amenity of the area, with views of the castle to the west.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	A full size football pitch found at the top of the bank to the beach road. It is currently being used for weekly football training for the under-8's Amble team and weekly training for an adult's team. The pitch is used by other adults and children for football practice and friendly matches, including the Brownies. We have some children who live in Warkworth who play at the NUFC Development Squad

		and who regularly practice on this field. When not in use as a football pitch, the field is used by residents for dog walking. There is adequate car parking for users of the pitch, in the newly resurfaced car park opposite.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The site is situated in a quiet location away from the main road.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	Barn owls are regularly spotted hunting on this field. The area is close to the river and coast, and a wide variety of birds can be seen on the field. There is a small rookery in the adjacent woods.
Conclusion		
<p>The space is a vital recreational area providing health benefits for adults and children, as well as social benefits of being involved in a team or league. Most small towns and villages in the area have a football pitch, and this is the only area available for a full sized pitch in Warkworth village. A resident quoted ‘this is the only large recreational area in our village’. There is adequate car parking nearby too. As such, it should be protected as local green space.</p>		

Site Ref	LGS09	
Site Name	Rotary Way	
Ownership	Northumberland County Council	
		
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All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A narrow strip of land which separates Amble from Warkworth.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Footpath/ cycle track/ road out of the village towards Amble.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	It is part of the River Coquet and its estuary, which many residents value greatly for its beauty and wildlife.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The route is flanked by the River Coquet on the east side, part of the Northumberland Coast AONB, and by agricultural land on the west side.

		Rotary Way separates Warkworth from Amble Town. There are stunning views of Warkworth Castle at the North end, and Amble Harbour at the South end. To the east lies Old Helsay. 128 people in the survey wanted this area protected for its beauty.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	Part of the National Cycle Route. Used by many residents who walk to Amble to do their shopping, or for recreational purposes such as jogging, cycling and fishing. Rotary Way is popular with visitors hoping to get that perfect shot of Warkworth Castle, and birdwatchers, hoping to see a rare bird. Rotary Way has been supported by Amble and Warkworth Rotary with wildflower planting along the verges. There is also a welcome display of crocuses and primroses early in the year. There is some limited car parking along the road. 123 people in the survey wanted this area protected for its recreational value.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	Avoiding the busy traffic times, Rotary Way is a peaceful place and you can hear geese and lapwing and other flocks of estuary birds.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	There is an abundance of wildlife to be spotted such as the heronry over the river, otters and seals and many bird species. Leaping salmon can be seen at certain times of the year on the weir. The fields to the west of Rotary Way are often waterlogged and filled with wading birds such as curlew, oyster catchers and lapwing. The flocks of golden plover are particularly magnificent. 154 people in the survey wanted this area protected for its wildlife.
Conclusion		
<p>It was clear from the resident’s survey that the entire River Coquet and its banks were seen as one of the most important assets to the village for all of the criterion above, i.e. beauty, historical significance, recreational value, tranquillity and wildlife. As such this part of the River should be protected. It is also part of the Northumberland Coast AONB. The site also forms part of the important gap between the village of Warkworth and the town of Amble; it is important to the setting of the historic village. The site therefore meets the requirements of local green space designation.</p>		

Site Ref	LGS11	
Site Name	The Braid, near Amble	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates and Northumberland County Council	
		
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Includes land allocated as protected open space within the local plan (1123 and 1125)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Land at the north side of Amble bordering the river Coquet estuary. A short walk from Queen St, the main shopping area. Adjacent to Amble Marina and the boat and yacht clubs.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	252 people in the survey wanted this area protected for its recreational value.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The Braid offers stunning views of the Coquet estuary, Amble Marina and Amble harbour. 129 people in the survey wanted this area protected for its beauty.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The Braid is used for access to Amble Marina, the Coquet Shorebase Trust, Amble Boat Club and the Coquet Yacht Club. The Braid is one of

		the main areas for dog walkers in Amble, as well as jogging and cycling. The recycling facilities can be found here, and there is car parking to encourage people to park outside of Amble and Warkworth and walk in. The Braid is sometimes used for events, such as firework displays and kite festivals. It is a vital large open green space for ad-hoc celebrations and outdoor events.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The Braid is a quiet area bordered by the Coquet estuary. There are several benches to sit on and relax or birdwatch.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The estuary is an important wildlife area, with many species of wading birds feeding there. In Autumn, thousands of geese are seen there. Flocks of lapwing and plover feed nearby, with all year round swans, ducks and heron. The area borders with the south end of the Northumberland Coast AONB. 160 people in the survey wanted this area protected for its wildlife.
Conclusion		
<p>The Braid is valued for its recreational space, as well as its beauty and wildlife, being in close proximity to the river estuary. Part of the Northumberland Coast AONB borders on to the Braid. As such, it should be protected. A resident said ‘The Braid is one of the largest recreational areas in the area, it’s ideal for families, dog walkers and anyone interested in nature’. The site therefore meets the requirements of local green space designation.</p>		

Site Ref	LGS12	
Site Name	Warkworth Golf Course	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates Tenant – Warkworth Golf Club	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	Seaside links, only 5665 yards in length.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Access adjacent to Warkworth beach car park.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	Situated on the beautiful coastline of the Northumberland AONB. Surrounded by dunes and beaches with outstanding sea views and views over the Warkworth Dunes and Saltmarsh SSSI.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Originally laid out in 1892 by the legendary Tom Morris.

<p>The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>A challenging 9-hole course and for those looking for a full round of golf, there are eighteen tees so a full round is possible. Open to members and visitors and very popular with tourists to the area. A good club house with full time catering, also open to visitors as well as members. Includes the Killicrankie Gorge, which links the village to the north end of Warkworth beach and is well used by walkers</p>
<p>The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>The course offers tranquillity with sea views and no traffic noise.</p>
<p>The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.</p>	<p>✓</p>	<p>The course is also home to an abundance of wildlife. Kingfishers are regularly spotted on the small pond on the course, in addition to oyster catchers, curlews and barn owls. In winter months, short-eared owls are seen hunting on the course and adjacent dunes. The course is used by many species of waders.</p>
<p>Conclusion</p>		
<p>A vital amenity with health and social benefits, in addition to its beauty and abundance of wildlife. The golf course is used by residents and tourists. The site therefore meets the requirements of local green space designation.</p>		

Site Ref	LGS13	
Site Name	Warkworth School playing fields	
Ownership	Owner – Church of England Tenant – Warkworth Primary School	
   		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A small area containing a primary school and associated grounds.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Situated on Guilden Road, a minute's walk from Morwick Road.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	The only school in the Parish, it has close links to the Church and to the community.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The site is important to the character of the local area.

The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	The school grounds border the designated scheduled monument of St. Mary Magdalene’s medieval chapel and associated earthworks. In 2017, 128 medieval silver coins were found in the school grounds by the caretaker. The hoard was declared ‘treasure trove’.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The grounds are used by the school and contain a forest school, a wildlife pond, an allotment, play facilities and a multi-functional yard. The grounds are open to wider families on school fair days and sports days. The grounds are a vital amenity in supporting children’s physical and mental wellbeing.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The outer grounds have some mature trees and are used by the children for making bug hotels and willow dens. There are lots of garden birds in the grounds, and the children take part in the annual Big Garden Birdwatch. The pond provides a haven for frogs, newts, dragonflies and ducks.
Conclusion		
As the only school in the Parish, the area is greatly valued by residents, many who are within walking distance. The grounds provide a fantastic opportunity for the children to get outdoors and to promote health and social skills. It is also a link to the natural environment. The site therefore meets the requirements of local green space designation.		

Site Ref	LGS14	
Site Name	St Lawrence Church grounds	
Ownership	Church of England	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A relatively small area of land.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Situated in the heart of the village by the river and market place.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	The Church is the heart of the community and meets all of the criterion below. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The beautiful 12th century Norman Church of St Lawrence is situated in the heart of the village. It sits between the River Coquet and the market place.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	A 12th century Norman Church, grade I listed building within the Diocese of Newcastle. The site is much older with a wooden Anglo-Saxon church mentioned as occupying the site in AD

		737, when King Ceolwulf of Northumbria gave Wercewode (as Warkworth was then known) along with St Lawrence’s church to the Abbot and monks of Lindisfarne. Building of the church as we see it today began in 1132. It was constructed not only as a holy place but also as a sanctuary for the villagers in dangerous times. The site is within Warkworth Conservation Area.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The Church is used by a wide variety of community groups in addition to its normal church services and functions. The grounds are used in Church fairs in the summer and at Christmas and the Church has strong ties with NCEA Warkworth Primary School. Messy Play sessions for children also run.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The grounds contain mature ancient trees and are edged with shrubs and flowers. It is the perfect place for anyone wanting to sit and rest and reflect
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	Situated only yards from the river bank, the Church grounds are a haven for wildlife including bats, swifts, hedgehogs and other wildlife. The Church is looking to become an Eco-Church with a view to extending its biodiversity and wildlife habitats.
Conclusion		
The Church and its surrounding garden and graveyard are a vital community asset to the residents of Warkworth. The green area around the Church meets the requirements of local green space designation.		

Site Ref	LGS15	
Site Name	Black Bridge area	
Ownership	Northumberland Estates	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A small area of land on both sides of Black Bridge. After the severe floods on 07/09/2008, the area has been left alone and has rewilded itself with native shrubs and trees.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	A few minutes walking distance from Morwick Road, the bridge is the link to the riverside caravan parks.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	After severe floods on 07/09/08, the old bridge was completely destroyed. It was replaced in 2010 and provides a link on foot to the south bank of the River Coquet and to the caravan parks situated there.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The area is left uncut and is a mixture of native trees and shrubs, with wildflowers in the summer. It is unspoilt and a perfect example of over a decade of rewilding.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	x	

The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The bridge is used by walkers and cyclists crossing the River Coquet. It is the main link for tourists staying in the caravans to access the village. Nature lovers can linger to watch deer, squirrels, birds and otters. The riverbank is used by anglers fishing.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	With only the road to the weir, the area has barely any traffic. It is peaceful and quiet, especially when the tourist season dies down.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	Deer and otters are frequently seen in this area, as are kingfishers and barn owls. There is wide variety of wildflowers in the summer months, attracting moths, butterflies, bees and many other pollinators. It is an excellent place to spot dragonflies.
Conclusion		
The area was identified by residents who took part in the survey as a place that needs protecting. As many of the residents who took part in the survey valued the entire Coquet River and its banks, this part should be included and protected too. The site therefore meets the requirements of local green space designation.		

Site Ref	LGS16
Site Name	Land between back of Morwick Road and Mill Walk Wood
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates Tenant – Mr Howie



All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A relatively small corner of a field, which has been left untouched for over 10 years. The rest of the field is used as agricultural land.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Sandwiched between Morwick Road and the Mill Walk Woods.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	Barn owls hunt on this patch both during the day and at night. The patch has been to re-wild itself and has many wildflower species and trees. It is used by many walkers daily.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	A patch of land left to re-wild, containing wild grasses, flowers, birds and small mammals. A

		badger sett is located close by in the adjacent woods.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.		
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The area is used by walkers and dog walkers daily.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	A beautiful and quiet spot, away from the roads and traffic noise.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The patch is used by swallows, housemartins, bats, barn owls (see photo above), tawny owls, badgers, foxes, deer and red squirrels. Red squirrels are endangered.
Conclusion		
<p>This small parcel of land in the corner of a larger agricultural field has been left untouched for over a decade. It has re-wilded itself with trees, grasses and wildflowers and forms part of a walking area for local people. The site therefore meets the requirements of local green space designation.</p>		

Site Ref	LGS17	
Site Name	Land surrounding the playing field, castle and cricket pitch	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates Tenant – Mr Howie	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	Part of the site is allocated as protected open space within the local plan (1013)
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	The areas are small strips of land surrounding the cricket pitch, and the adjacent small field known as St Johns Close.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	The area is in front of Warkworth Castle and opposite Morwick Road, in the heart of the village.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	From the residents survey, it was evident that this land is part of the overall frontal view of the Castle from Morwick Road. It is open tracts of land providing the spectacular view of the whole of the Castle. It also falls within the Northumberland Coast AONB.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	Permanent pasture fields in front of the historic Warkworth Castle. Meadows for part of the year, followed by cows grazing in the summer. Beautiful buttercup meadows in the Summer, see the photograph above.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Within the conservation area and important to the setting of the castle. The area forms part of the medieval Deer Hunting Park Boundary and also St Johns Close, named by reference to the Knights Hospitallers in the

		late medieval period. It is also rigg and furrow land.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The fields are used in summer months by grazing cows. The rest of the year they are left untouched and are meadow-like. They provide a serene and tranquil area in the heart of the village.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The fields are used by swallows, housemartins, bats, barn owls, tawny owls, deer, foxes and badgers. The buttercup meadows are rich in pollinators too.
Conclusion		
<p>The small areas of land surrounding the cricket pitch, together with the field known as St Johns Close, form an overall vista to the view of the Castle. They form part of the Medieval Deer Hunting Park and are rich in history, wildlife and village agriculture. They also fall within the Northumberland Coast AONB. As such, the site should be protected as local green space.</p>		

Site Ref	LGS18	
Site Name	Birling Gap	
Ownership	Northumberland Estates	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	A small area of land bordered by a car park, the cemetery and housing at Birling.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Adjacent to the village cemetery and the beach road, in the heart of the community.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	The land borders on to the ancient village cemetery and a grade II listed chapel. It also borders on to the ancient woodland as you exit the village North over the Bridge. It is also within the Northumberland Coast AONB.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Adjacent to the ancient cemetery, which contains a grade II listed chapel.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	x	
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The area is adjacent to a cemetery and is very quiet and tranquil. It is within the Northumberland Coast AONB.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The site is used by swallows, housemartins, bats, barn owls, tawny owls, badgers, foxes,

		deer and red squirrel. There is also an abundance of pollinating insects.
Conclusion		
This area was identified by residents in the survey as an important local green space which should be protected. The area is within an AONB and adjacent to a grade II listed Chapel. The site therefore meets the requirements of local green space designation.		

Site Ref	LGS19	
Site Name	Rigg and furrow field west of Warkworth Castle	
Ownership	Owner – Northumberland Estates Tenant – William Dodd, Hermitage Farm	
		
All the following criteria must be met (✓ or x)		Comments
Land is not subject of a planning permission for development.	✓	
Space is not allocated or proposed for development in the Local or Neighbourhood Plan.	✓	
The space is not an extensive tract of land and is local in character.	✓	These rigg and furrow fields are situated in the bend of the River Coquet directly opposite Warkworth Castle. They are small

		fields used for sheep grazing and the site is permissive open access land.
The space is within close proximity of the community it serves.	✓	Access can be gained from Station Road via a permissive footpath. The fields are very close to Warkworth Castle, separated only by the river.
The space is demonstrably special to the local community and holds particular local significance.	✓	These fields are rigg and furrow and they form the stunning views west from Warkworth Castle. It is permissive open access land and leads to the footpath past the woods containing Warkworth Hermitage.
At least one criterion must be met		Comments
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its beauty.	✓	The site is sloped down towards the river and consists of green fields used for sheep grazing. It is the beautiful view west from Warkworth Castle. From the site itself, you can view most of Warkworth village including the castle and Church of St Lawrence.
The proposed space is of particular local historic significance.	✓	Rigg and Furrow fields show evidence of medieval farming practices and this example is on the banks opposite Warkworth Castle and the medieval deer park. It is situated between Station Road and Warkworth Hermitage.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its recreational value.	✓	The site is permissive open access land used by walkers.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its tranquillity.	✓	The site has no roads anywhere near it. It is extremely peaceful with the river flowing past. The only sounds are the sheep and the birds.
The proposed space is of particular local significance because of its richness of wildlife.	✓	The site is partly boggy, and partly bordered by the River Coquet. As such it is rich in wildlife not found in other parts of the village. There is a wide range of birds found here, as it is mostly undisturbed. Families of foxes are often seen in the gorse bushes, as well as badgers and deer. There are many frog, dragonfly and butterfly species here.
Conclusion		
This site is truly green and used for farming and recreational purposes. It forms part of the village link to Warkworth Hermitage and it forms part of the stunning view from Warkworth Castle. The site meets the criteria for designation as local green space.		

Appendix 3 Local Green Space Maps

LGS01 Playing field between Morwick Road and Warkworth Castle



LGS02 The Stanners Riverside Area



LGS03 The Butts Riverside Area



LGS04 Play area near school



LGS05 Warkworth Castle Grounds



LGS06 Warkworth Cricket Pitch



LGS07 The Burgage plots including allotments/ community garden



LGS08 Millennium garden



LGS09 Football pitch, Beach Road



LGS10 Rotary Way (northern section)



Southern section



LGS11 The Braid, near Amble



LGS12 Warkworth Golf Course



LGS13 Warkworth School playing fields



LGS14 St Lawrence Church grounds



LGS15 Black Bridge area



LGS16 Land between back of Morwick Road and Mill Walk Woods



LGS17 Land surrounding the playing field, castle and cricket pitch



LGS18 Birling Gap (adjacent to cemetery, behind Beach Road car park)



LGS19 Ridge and furrow field west of Warkworth Castle

